## Message Text

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**ORIGIN EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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P R 072340Z JAN 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY INFO USNMR SHAPE USCINCEUR USLOSACLANT CINCLANT

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE PLANNING, SPRING 1975

REFS: A. USNATO 7094; B. USNATO 0023

1. USNATO 7094 FURNISHES USEFUL OUTLINE OF AREAS OF NATO DEFENSE PLANNING IN COMING MONTHS, LOOKING FORWARD TO SPRING DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING. WE HAVE COMMENTS ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, BASIC ISSUES, AD-70 SPRING REPORT, AND SEC GEN'S PO.

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2. WE AGREE THAT PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES TO BE BROUGHT TO

ATTENTION OF DPC MINISTERS WILL BE THOSE OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, BASIC ISSUES, AND COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS. WE DO NOT NOW ENVISAGE NEW MAJOR INITIATIVES.

- 3. MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE NOW HAS A MOMENTUM OF ITS OWN. IT WILL NEED NO SPECIAL EMPHASIS FROM MISSION OR FROM WASHINGTON IN ORDER TO KEEP IT IN THE LIMELIGHT. SEC GEN'S TARGET DATE OF 15 APRIL FOR SUBMISSION OF DRC DRAFT TO DPC IN PERMANENT SE-SION SEEMS REASONABLE.
- 4. ON BASIC ISSUES, WE WOULD FIND IT MOST USEFUL IF THE SPRING REVIEW COULD GIVE A CLEAR PICTURE OF WHERE WE STAND ON THE VARIOUS FORCE IMPROVEMENTS CALLED FOR UNDER THE SIX BASIC ISSUES. WE ARE RELUCTANT TO AGREE THAT NEW GOALS

FOR BASIC ISSUES AREAS SHOULD BE PROPOSED THIS SPRING FOR ADOPTION BY MINISTERS AT THEIR JUNE MEETING. WE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE THE BENEFIT OF AN ACCURATE STOCKTAKING. SINCE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE OF JUNE 1975 WILL BE FOLLOWED BY NATO MILITARY FORCE PROPOSALS OF FEBRUARY 1976, WE WOULD NOT WANT TO CUT INTO THIS PROCESS BY ADDING INTERIM GOALS UNLESS SOME INTERIM STEP SUGGESTS ITSELF DURING THE SPRING REVIEW. WE BELIEVE THE SPRING AD-70 REVIEW CAN ACCOMMODATE THE STOCKTAKING PROCESS FOR BASIC ISSUES.

- 5. THE AD-70 SPRING REVIEW, AS INDICATED BY MISSION, SHOULD HIGHLIGHT ITEMS OF CURRENT INTEREST AND SHOULD INCLUDE COMMENTS ON REGIONAL FORCE CAPABILITIES (EITHER BY REFERENCE TO THE MILITARY VIEWS SUBMITTED FOR THE DECEMBER 1974 REVIEW OF FORCE PLANS OR IN A SEPARATE SECTION OF THE REPORT AS PREPARED BY MAJOR COMMANDERS). AS INDICATED ABOVE IT SHOULD ALSO HAVE A SECTION SHOWING NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS ON IMPROVEMENTS IN BASIC ISSUES AREAS; AND IT SHOULD COVER SUPPORTING PROGRAMS, WITH WEIGHT OF COVERAGE RELATED TO CRITICALITY OF THE PROGRAM.
- 6. ON TIMING, WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE DATE OF 15 MAY FOR COMPLETION OF ALL PAPERS TO BE CONSIDERED BY DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION. IF AD-70 SPRING REVIEW IS HELD DURING CONFIDENTIAL

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LATTER PART OF APRIL AND FIRST PART OF MAY, IT COULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IN ONE DOCUMENT THE PROGRESS REPORTED IN OTHER FIELDS.

7. GUIDANCE ON CONSULTATION REGARDING THE CONVERSION OF THE 18,000 SUPPORT TROOPS REFERRED TO IN PARA 7 USNATO 7094 WILL BE HANDLED SEPARATELY.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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To: NATO BRUSSELS

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